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THEY CAME HERE TO LIVE

Their World Is A Stage Stretching All The Way From Alaska To Florida

By GEORGE BARTLETT
Of The Times Staff

A considerable addition to an already well filled reservoir of talent came to the St. Petersburg Little Theatre in 1960 when Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence N. Van Nort moved here from Hawthorne, N.J.

This personable couple had behind them an impressive background of theatrical experience. Elizabeth, who made her Broadway debut with Eddie Cantor in "Kid Boots," and whose last theatrical appearance in New York was in "Connecticut Yankee" with Bill Gaxton, had also played second lead with Jeanette MacDonald in "Yes, Yes, Yvette," replaced Irene Dunne in "Yours Truly" which starred Leon Erroll, toured New England in a road company with Tom Martelle, and appeared in stock in Springfield, Mass.

Larry, who was general methods engineer for the New York Telephone Co. in the Long Island area when he retired, had taken up the theatrical art to please Elizabeth, and as a member of the Radburn Players, in Radburn, N.J., where they lived for many years. There he had acted, directed, stage managed, and learned practically everything there is to know of what goes on behind the footlights.

Elizabeth and Larry met on a blind date, while he was in the army in World War I. They were married soon after Larry was graduated as a mechanical engineer in 1922 from Lehigh



—Staff Photo by George Trabent

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Elizabeth's paintings in the Van Nort household.

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